

## **Uptown Theater**

**Current Name:** Uptown Theater

**Original Name:** Uptown Theater

**Address:** 3426 Connecticut Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20008  
(Cleveland Park Neighborhood)

**Architect(s):** John J. Zink (Zink, Atkins & Craycroft, Baltimore)

**Year of Construction:** 1936

**Current Status:** Entertainment

**Original Use:** Entertainment

This is probably DC's best surviving movie theater and now the largest at 800 seats, though it originally had 1500. It is surprising to realize that when the Uptown opened, it was a neighborhood theater, definitely second to the magnificent palaces downtown, yet one of the first to be so large and show first-run movies. Today, it is Washington's major "presentation house" for important premiers, which should remind us of the importance of historic preservation. Exceptional buildings should be retained, because new uses will appear to those who have vision.

John J. Zink of Baltimore was an important and prolific theater architect on the East Coast. Here, the impressive facade of vertical limestone planes step up to the yellow brick wall of the theater, marked by fluted bands that follow along, showing a good sense of scale and balance. Well-chosen features include etched glass windows, neon lights, a metal marquee, and decorative zigzags. And the sign is just right.



### Static (Fixed) Google Map:



### Dynamic (Searchable and Expandable) Google Map:

<https://tinyurl.com/y3mvbb55>